

REMARKS

Claims 10-15 are pending.

Claims 10, 14 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Tri (U.S. Patent No. 6,409,173).

Claims 11-13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, however, would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

A. Tri Reference (U.S. Patent No. 6,409,173) Does Not Show Features of the Claims Sufficient to Support Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

The elements of the claims are not properly disclosed to support a proper §102(e) rejection. According to applicants' reading, Tri fails to show the following features of claim 10 and its dependants:

- A bonus game having multiple B-I-N-G-O cards – In Tri, the player only plays from a single card: "Initially, the method starts at step 10 wherein the player obtains a gaming card and also has this card authorized." (Col. 3, lines 39-41).
- Detecting a max wager bet – In Tri, play of the BINGO card during Blackjack occurs automatically and no maximum bet is stated, required or detected: "Authorizing the gaming card typically involves proceeding to a Blackjack gaming table and taking all steps to begin playing Blackjack . . . After completion of the Blackjack hand, the player examines their existing hand to determine if they have obtained one of the predetermined arrangements of cards listed on their gaming card." (Col. 3, lines 45-48 and Col. 3, line 66 through Col. 4, line 2).
- Lighting the columns – Tri only describes marking a single numbered space: "If a predetermined arrangement of cards has been received, the player notifies the Blackjack dealer and the appropriate square on their gaming card is blackened." (Col. 4, lines 3-6) (emphasis added) See also step 16 in Tri FIG. 1 stating "Have Appropriate Square Stamped." Note this does not refer to columns.
- Columns lighted in sequential order e.g. via query block 120 in FIG. 4 – Tri makes no reference to order and posts the numbers and pays out winnings [see Col. 5, lines 12-20] no matter what the order.

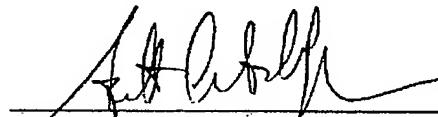
- CLAIM 14 "building a bonus script...." – It would be impossible for Tri to operate under a bonus script since Blackjack hands are unpredictable. For Tri to operate under a script, the order of the cards dealt with the players would have to be predetermined, an impossibility in a table game with player decisions to hit or not-hit).
- CLAIM 15 "... plurality of bonus prizes associated with the completed BINGO card." – Tri discloses that "multiple prizes can be awarded to the players," (Col. 5, lines 21-22) but does not disclose that such prizes are associated with the completed BINGO card; rather the Tri prizes are not linked to any particular card, but rather to a win on any card.

The Examiner is invited to specify exactly where within the Tri patent the particular features are found. In the absence of these features, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the claims to allowance.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 10-15 of the application is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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